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AN INTERNATIONAL COURT, AN INTERNATIONAL SHERIFF AND WORLD PEACE

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Constructive peace can only come when international courts are stronger than international causes of war. Not only a possible but the largest possible service America can do the world's peace is to put the sheriff behind the courts of arbitration. We have had international tribunals for over a century. They have not prevented war. We have had recorded treaties for forty centuries. They have not prevented war. The peace of humanity will only come as the peace of the people and the king's peace came, when behind treaty and international courts there is a strong man armed able to deal with the sons of violence and the lovers of war. Last July, when Serbia offered arbitration and the neutrality of Belgium was in peril, had all the neutral powers, outside those now at war, led by America, with America led by the United States, insisted on arbitration as a *posse comitatus* of humanity, arbitration would have come, and war would not have come. The machinery was not ready. It should be prepared when peace comes. No nation is strong enough to fight all the world, even if it may be ready to risk war with half the world. Humanity is still stronger than any one nation and as the peace of the people can only be protected by all the people so the peace of humanity can only be protected by all humanity.

No hemisphere can lead in this organization of humanity but the American hemisphere. No nation can lead the American hemisphere but the United States. As it is, the two issues of fact on which the war began remain unadjudicated. War cannot give justice. Peace alone walks hand in hand with righteous justice. Were the Servian government or its officers implicated in the murder of Grand Duke Ferdinand? Who first violated the neutrality of Belgium? These are justiciable issues of fact. Even now, these ought to be adjudicated. Were they tried, and the judgment of an impartial court enforced, war would cease among men and per-

petual peace be brought nearer than any possible issue of the present conflict, whichever party to it crushed the other.

Unless America, led by the United States, in due time secures and organizes a force behind courts of arbitration able and willing to insist on all issues likely to lead to war being adjudicated, out of the furrows of this great war no harvest of the peace of humanity can come. Either we must create an international force strong enough to keep the world's peace or we must arm to defend ourselves to keep our peace in a world of war. Such a court with such a force behind it, not of one nation, but of all nations that love peace and ensue it, could deal with the weak disordered land that breeds war. Weak and disordered China, Turkey, Persia, Morocco, these have brought twenty years of war. The one indispensable service constructive and perpetual peace demands is an international court with an international sheriff behind it, made up of allied powers strong enough to compel attendance at court, to enforce its judgments and to execute an international receivership of a land like Mexico unable to keep its own peace. By force, stronger than the unruly, law, courts and peace have in the past been established in each civilized land. So will come the peace of humanity and by no other path.